### Illinois Association of Museums Annual Conference

October 27-29, 2004

Days Inn Hotel and Conference Center

Danville, Illinois

Happy Birthday to Us Happy Birthday to Us Happy Birthday dear IAM Happy Birthday to Us

This year marks the Tenth Anniversary of the founding of the Illinois Association of Museums. Our Annual Conference will be a celebration of that birthday and a celebration of Illinois' museum community. Come join the party!

The conference will be held at the Days Inn Hotel and Conference Center in Danville from October 27 to 29, 2004. Danville is the hometown of actor Gene Hackman, comedians Dick and Jerry Van Dyke, dancer Donald O'Connor, and musician Bobby Short. With history like that, you know there will be lots of excitement! We will be hosted by the Vermilion County Museum Society, Illiana Genealogical Society, Vermilion County War Museum, Vermilion County Conservation District, Old Towne Preservation (Fischer Theater), and Danville Area Community College. The museums have planned an exciting schedule of special events, and the program committee has put together sessions that will inform, challenge, and excite us. Vendors will show us the latest in exhibit design, technology, conservation, and publications. And there is always the chance to meet up with someone from a museum similar to yours who has already solved a problem you have just identified or wants to hear about your new program.

Come Join Us!!!

# Local Arrangements

### **Conference Headquarters**

The newly remodeled Days Inn Hotel at 77 North Gilbert Street in Danville will be our conference headquarters. All of the sessions on Thursday and those scheduled for Friday morning will be held at the hotel. Workshops on Wednesday will be offered at various museums around the city, and the Awards Banquet and Friday afternoon sessions will be hosted by the Vermilion County Museum at 116 North Gilbert Street. The Days Inn is a full service hotel and all sites are handicapped accessible.

### Lodging

A block of rooms has been reserved for us at the Days Inn at \$59 plus tax per night. The hotel is located downtown and within walking distance of several of our host museums. Each room has cable TV with access to HBO and

fifty other channels. There is an outdoor pool and an exercise room, and the Coach's Bar & Grille is on site for those late evening get-togethers.

Please make your reservations directly with the hotel by calling **217/443-6600** or faxing 217/443-2345. Mention the IAM conference to receive the group rate. The special rate is also available for the day before the conference and the weekend following. The rooms will be held until **October 13, 2004**. Any registrations made after that date will be made on a space available basis.

### Registration

The early registration fee for individual IAM members and staff/volunteers of institutional members is \$50. After October 1, the registration fee is \$65. The fee for non-members is \$65 before September 30 and \$80 after October 1. This fee includes attendance at all sessions, the Opening Reception on Wednesday evening, and the Annual Meeting Luncheon and keynote speaker on Thursday. There is a separate fee for the workshops and tours on Wednesday, Thursday's evening celebration, and the Awards Banquet on Friday.

All museum professionals who are presenting at the meeting are expected to register and pay the appropriate fee out of professional courtesy. Speakers from outside the museum profession or from out-of-state who plan to attend only their session are not required to register. However, they must register and pay in advance for any special events they choose to attend.

If a registrant cannot attend Annual Conference and the IAM office is notified before October 1, either a substitute may take the registrant's place or a full refund of fees paid will be given. If the office is notified between October 1 and October 22, half of the registration fee will be refunded. After October 23, there will be no refunds. Requests for refunds must be in written form and will be paid after the conference has ended.

### **Scholarships**

Scholarships for Annual Conference are available from IAM. All individual members and staff/volunteers of institutional members of IAM are eligible. Preference will be given to attendees from small museums with limited budgets, professionals new to the field, and/or professionals or volunteers who can prove economic need.

For more information and an application form, call the IAM office at 217/524-7080 or visit our website at <a href="https://www.illinoismuseums.org">www.illinoismuseums.org</a> and look under "Membership."

# Conference Schedule

# Wednesday, October 27th

10:00-12:00

Illinois Association of Museums Board of Director's meeting, Vermilion County Museum

12:00-1:00

Registration in hotel lobby

1:00-4:00

Preserving the Photographic Record Workshop, Vermilion County War Museum, Presented by Joy Matthiessen, Des Plaines History Center (\$10)

We all have seen the boxes of photographs, file drawers full of unidentified pictures, and albums full of unknown faces waiting to be preserved. This workshop will cover the basics of photograph preservation: identifying the various types of photographs found in collections, proper storage techniques and materials, sorting and establishing order in the collection, dealing with photo enemies such as bugs and mold, and general tips on exhibiting. A resource kit will be provided for each participant.

Wetland Tour, Vermilion County Conservation District at Kennekuk County Park, Vermilion County Conservation District Staff (\$10)

Come experience a wetland community that flourishes with wildlife that includes all types of waterfowl, bald eagles, beaver, river otters, and of course, great blue herons! The park is home to one of the largest heron rookeries in Vermilion County and has an active bald eagle nest nearby. The tour includes a floating boardwalk, 950 feet long, and a thirty foot handicapped accessible tower for viewing the wildlife. Comfortable clothes and walking shoes are recommended. Transportation from the hotel will be provided.

# **Danville Memorial Tour**, Vermilion County Museum Society, Sue Richter (\$10)

We all have them: rocks with a plaque embedded on the face, monuments, memorial bridges, cannons, and maybe even an airplane somewhere. Danville has more than its share. Come see how the Vermilion County

Museum Society has turned a tour of their memorials into a ride through local history. Transportation from the hotel will be provided.

5:00-7:00

**Opening Reception** at the Vermilion County Conservation District (**Free with conference registration**)

Join us for a relaxed country dinner presented by the Vermilion County Conservation District. We will tour the District's collection of historic buildings at the Bunker Hill Historic Site and see the recently acquired railroad dining car which has been placed next to the newly renovated Bismarck depot. There will be costumed guides and a lively scavenger hunt. The evening will end with a hay ride and bonfire. S'mores for everyone and maybe even some singing around the campfire! Transportation from the hotel will be provided.

# Thursday, October 28th

8:00-12:00 Registration in Hotel Lobby

#### 8:00-4:30 Museum Marketplace –

Champagne Room, Days Inn

Come see what's new in the museum world. We will have vendors of museum services and products with samples of their wares and information about what they do. The vendors will include:

- Taylor Studios, Rantoul (exhibit design, fabrication, and installation)
- Avitra Exhibit Technologies, Des Plaines (exhibit technology applications, fabrication, consulting)
- Chicago Conservation Center, Chicago (art conservation – paper, painting, objects, textiles, murals, frames)
- Bradford Systems, Morton Grove (mobile shelving and storage products
- Watts Copy Systems, Danville (copiers/fax/postage equipment, printers)
- The Donning Company, Marceline, Missouri (publishers)

#### **Breakout Sessions**

8:30-10:00 Session I: Bordeaux Room – "Wake Up and Smell the Coffee" Chair: Cheryl Kennedy, Early American Museum, Mahomet; lobbyists, legislators, and other panelists to be announced.

The Illinois Association of Museums joins with the Illinois Association of Park Districts for this opening session designed to help us become better advocates for our museums. Based on targeted research and advice from skilled professionals, this session will outline steps to build community relationships and reach public officials.

# 10:00-10:30 Coffee Break in Museum Marketplace

10:30-12:00 Session IIA: Bordeaux Room –

"Celebrating Together: The Things You
Can Do When You Work Cooperatively!"
Chair: Adrienne Barkley Giffin, Southern
Illinois Association of Museums; Paul
Idleman, Museums at the Crossroads,
Champaign; Carla Hill, Kane DuPage
County Regional Museum Alliance

There is strength in numbers and that is as true in the museum world as it is elsewhere. When museums band together they can do many things that a single institution cannot. This session will explore the possibilities and focus on the ways to make it happen effectively.

Session IIB: Burgundy Room – "Unconventional Audiences" Chair: Sandy Osborne, Early American Museum; David Oberg, Midway Village and Museum Center.

This session will focus on strategies, ideas and sample lessons for dealing with non-traditional student audiences. Each child has "special needs": this is as true for the home school student as for the at-risk student. The presenters will share their excellent programs for unconventional student audiences.

### Annual Meeting

12:00-1:00 Annual Meeting Lunch

Sponsored by the Illinois Historic Preservation

Agency (free with conference registration)

Join us for our Birthday Celebration! We will honor the charter members of our Board of Directors

and of course have birthday cake and ice cream for dessert.

### 1:00-1:30 Annual Meeting

(Open to all IAM members and visitors.)

### 1:30-2:15 Keynote Speaker – Brian C. Crockett

Brian Crockett is an unashamed small museums junkie and advocate. He has worked with many of them across the country as founder and former national co-director of Museum on Main Street, a federal/state partnership between the Smithsonian Institution and state humanities councils that delivers traveling exhibitions and educational programs to rural museums nationwide. He has worked with both small and midsized museums to assess staff training and institutional development needs and is currently acting as a humanities consultant to the new National Endowment for the Humanities On the Road traveling exhibition initiative. Brian is coming to us from his home in Salt Lake City, Utah, to share his insights into just what it is about museums that makes them worth celebrating!

#### **2:15-2:45** Coffee Break

#### **Breakout Sessions**

2:45-4:00 Session IIIA: Bordeaux Room – "Making the Dream Real – Museum Construction and Renovation." Chair: Martha Chlipala, CATH Associates Inc.; Shari Buckellew, Children's Discovery Museum; Richard Cartright, The Field Museum; Thomas Chlipala, The Field Museum; John Harris, Wonder Works.

How do vision, planning, design, and construction or renovation help museums reach our audiences as well as positively affect our community's economic development. Panel members will present on specific issues they encountered during construction and renovation projects. This will range from vision and design selection to pursuit of funding or specific physical construction issues.

Session IIIB: Burgundy Room – "Collection Plans and Collections Management."

Chair: Barbara Oeblschlagger Garvey, Farly

Chair: Barbara Oehlschlaeger-Garvey, Early American Museum; Jennifer White, Spurlock Museum; Karen Everingham, Illinois Association of Museums.

The American Association of Museums has recently suggested that, in addition to a collection policy,

each institution should have a collection plan. Just what is a collection plan, how is one developed, and how does it differ from a collection policy? What if your collection no longer "fits" your collection plan? Will your collection policy allow you to deaccession artifacts? This panel will share experiences, explore options, and make suggestions for developing your own policies and plans.

# 5:30-8:00 Celebrate at the Birthday Bash! Join the evening party hosted by... well, it's a surprise! (\$20)

There will be a mystery tour of historic sites and museums in the Danville area, with light refreshments served at each stop. But be prepared for anything – it is close to Halloween! And Danville is the hometown of such greats as Gene Hackman, Dick and Jerry Van Dyke, and Bobby Short, so you know they love their theatricals. After touring the sites, the bus will deliver guests to Danville Area Community College Bremer Conference Center where dinner will be served. During dinner, local performing artists will entertain attendees as IAM celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Join us for this Tenth Birthday Bash! Transportation from the hotel will be provided.

# Friday, October 29th

### **Breakout Sessions**

8:30-10:00 Session IVA: Bordeaux Room –
"Inviting Others to the Party:
Fundraising, Sponsorships, and Finding
New Members." Chair: Shari Buckellew,
Children's Discovery Museum; Kate
Schureman, Lakeview Museum of Science
and Art

In tough economic times, museums are challenged to find support for their programs and facilities from within their communities and their membership base, and from local businesses and industry. This panel will explore the options that are available and share some success stories – maybe even a few failures. There will also be time for open discussion and input on the situations provided by the audience.

Session IVB: Burgundy Room – "The Possible Past Lives of Museum Objects: Using 'Imaginary Histories' in Museum

**Interpretation."** Chair: Elizabeth (Beau) Vallance, NIU; other panelists to be announced.

This session will explore techniques for "demystifying" museum artifacts by helping visitors to envision the artifacts' original lives and the stories they have lived — or might have lived — between their making and their present situation protected in museum galleries. The session will make the case for using imaginary history prompts in museum labels, gallery programs, and workshops; it will present some student examples of tales told about selected objects from a variety of cultures, and involve the audience in sample explorations with two objects.

#### **10:00-10:30** Coffee break

10:30-12:00 Session VA: Bordeaux Room – "Finding the Money to Pay for the Party." Chair: Mary Turner, IAM; Ryan Lewis, Illinois Humanities Council; Ann Ridge, Illinois Arts Council.

Yes, there is money out there. There may not be as much as we would like, but it is there and this session will introduce participants to three programs that are actively funding the Illinois museum community. There will be information about how to apply to each program, what the reviewers are looking for in the applications and what they are most likely to fund.

Session VB: Burgundy Room –
"Developing Your Greatest Resource."
Chair: Mark Whitlock, Illinois State Military
Museum; Judy Donath, Retired and Senior
Volunteer Program of Sangamon, Menard
and Logan Counties; and Jeanne Blackman,
Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and
Community Service.

Explore opportunities and techniques to recruit, train, and retain a core group of volunteers and docents at your institution. This session will be led by people who are trained to work with volunteers and have run successful programs.

### Awards Program

12:00-1:00 Awards Lunch at Vermilion County Museum (\$20)

#### 1:00-2:30 Awards Presentation

(Free with conference registration.)
Join us to honor award winners from across the state!
See what creative things are happening at your sister institutions and congratulate the winners.

#### **2:30-2:45** Coffee break

**2:45-4:00** Session VIA: Vermilion County

Museum Gallery – "Making your Museum Accessible" Chair: Ann Ridge, Illinois Arts Council, Rebecca Bruns, Illinois Employment Training Center

Come and join us for a presentation on how to identify and improve your facility's physical and programmatic access for patrons with disabilities. Using the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as your guide, you will learn how to identify accessibility issues more fully and explore affordable and creative solutions to improve the experience of everyone who visits your site. You will be provided with a range of helpful marketing tools, general resource information and networking resources and that can help your cultural organization grow in new, interesting a revenue-generating ways!

Session VIB: Vermilion County Museum Richter Hall – "Exhibit Design Happy Hour." Chair: Ted Swigon, museum consultant.

Exhibit planning, design and production can seem overwhelming. During the session, we will review the process beginning with content organization, then craft a message, lay out the story in a typical gallery, establish a look for the gallery, and address budgeting and building of the presentation. During the Q & A period there will be time to share your projects with the group and find some solutions.

# Registration

Only one person per registration form please.				
Name				
Position/Title				
Institution				
Address				
CityState		Zip		
Phone Email				
Spouse/Guest Name (if applicable)  ☐ I am an IAM member ☐ I work/volunteer for a mem ☐ I am joining IAM at this time (see membership form on back)	nber institution	☐ I am not an IA <b>Membership</b>	M member \$	
Meeting Registration:				
Workshops and Events:  Wednesday, October 27:  Pre-conference workshops and tours; register for only one:				
☐ Preserving the Photographic Record: \$10	\$			
☐ Wetland Tour: \$10	\$	_		
<ul> <li>□ Danville Memorial Tour: \$10</li> <li>□ Opening Reception (free with conference registration)</li> </ul>	\$ \$ 0	_		
Thursday, October 28:		_		
☐ Annual Meeting Lunch (free with conference registration)	\$ <u>0</u>			
☐ Birthday Bash: \$20	\$	_		
Friday, October 29:  ☐ Awards Lunch: \$20	\$ Workshop an Registration	 d Events Total <mark>Fotal</mark>	\$ \$	
I have special needs (vegetarian, hearing impairment, etc.)				

### Illinois Association of Museums Membership Application

Name			
Institution			
	Fax		
Email	Website		
	ate member	\$150	
☐ Instituti	on with budget over \$500,001	\$100	
☐ Instituti	on with budget from \$100,001 to \$500,000	\$ 75	
☐ Instituti	on with budget from \$50,001 to \$100,000	\$ 50	
☐ Instituti	on with budget under \$50,000	\$ 40	
☐ Individu	al	\$ 35	
☐ Full-tim	e student (include copy of current student identification)	\$ 30	
	Membership fee to be carried to Registration Fo	orm on reverse	\$



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